Application/Control Number: 10/577,696

Page 3 Art Unit: 1631

In the specification:

On page

In paragraph 60, last line, delete "(ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=unigene)", Change(s) applied

 $to\ document,\ replace\ with\ "(ncbi\ website\ with\ the\ extension\ "nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=unigene")".$

/M.K.Y./ 3/11/2011

In the claims:

Delete claim 4.

In claim 30, line 1, delete "(b)", replace with "(c)".

In claim 31, line 1, delete "(b)", replace with "(c)".

In claim 33, line 1, delete "(b)", replace with "(c)".

In claim 41, line 1, delete "(b)", replace with "(c)".

In claim 42, line 1, delete "(b)", replace with "(bb)".

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE:

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The invention is directed to a method for selecting from a plurality of different siRNAs one or more siRNAs for silencing a target gene in an organism. The prior art does not disclose the method as it is claimed in the instant invention. The rejections and objections in the office action, mailed 5/7/10, are withdrawn due to claim amendments. Because no outstanding rejections remain, the claimed invention is deemed allowable.